

land, they call a gulf: a bay is a gulf that has a capacious mouth: the Archipelago is a sea in which there are a number of islands: a Streight is a passage between one sea and another: a Lake is a body of water, surrounded on all sides by the land; and a River is water which is continually running. Take notice of this, children.

Miss Julia. Yes, Mademoiselle: a Gulf is a part of the sea which runs into the land; as the Gulf of Venice: a Streight is an arm of the sea which joins two seas together; as the Straights of Gibraltar, which join the main ocean to the Mediterranean Sea.

Mademoiselle. Very well: they call that a Streight also which is bound in by two lands. Look at the map; between the island of Corsica, and the island of Sardinia, you see there is a little arm of the sea. It is called the Straights of Boniface.

Miss Sprightly. Pray, Mademoiselle, why is the narrow part of the sea which
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is between Italy and Sicily, called the Pharos of Messina? What is the signification of the word Pharos?

Mademoiselle. I don't understand Greek, my dear; and this word is derived from the Greek language. But we may be able to find out the meaning. Ships that are out at sea cannot come within a certain distance of land without danger: a light is therefore put on the sea-shore to give notice that land is not far off, which cautions the sailors from approaching too near. Ptolemy, one of the kings of Egypt, built such a beautiful marble watch-tower, that it was reckoned one of the seven wonders of the world. A light was placed upon the top of this tower to warn the ships during the night, and ever since that time they have been called Pharos's; and it is from one of these towers, the Pharos of Messina, that this streight takes its name. We may therefore suppose, that the word Pharos signifies a light to guide the ships in the night.